

Message Text

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R 221603Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO CINCPAC
COGARD
TREASURY
GOV GUAM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: DECEMBER 22 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. CHINA

TOKYO'S HIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN REPORTED TUES THAT PEKING IS
DEVELOPING FOURTH MAJOR OIL FIELD IN NORTH AT LIAONING
PROVINCE, WHICH COULD SIGNAL REVIVAL OF PRC OFFENSIVE FOR
LARGER SHARE WORLD'S OIL MARKET (UPI, JOC).

SOVIET AMB LEADS WORKOUT BY POLISH/E GERMAN/HUNGARIAN/BUL-
GARIAN/CZECH/MONGOLIAN DIPLOMATS PROTESTING LI HSEIN-NIEN'S
ATTACK ON KREMLIN AT DINNER HONORING YEMEN CHIEF OF STATE
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(PHINQ).

2. JAPAN

JAPAN-EEC OPEN 2-DAY TALKS IN TOKYO, FOCUSING ON WAYS COPE
W/CURRENT SHIPBUILDING RECESSION, EEC PROPOSAL THAT JAPAN

SHARE EXPORT MARKETS W/W EUR (REUTER NYT; CULLISON JOC).

JAPANESE BUSINESS SOURCES SAY NEGOTS ON 7-BIL-DOL PROGRAM FOR JOINT DEVELOPMENT NATURAL GAS RESOURCES IN E SIBERIA EXPECTED RESUME IN PARIS AROUND 3/21 BY US/JAPAN/USSR

REPS. AGENDA INCLUDES PROPOSED 3.4-BIL-DOL BANK LOAN FROM US/JAPAN TO MOSCOW (CULLISON).

YOUNG (BALT NA 12/21) REPORTS JAPANESE INDUSTRIALISTS EXPECT STRONG CONGRESSIONAL EFFORT NEXT YEAR RESTRICT US IMPORTS, ESPECIALLY ELECTRONICS/STEEL. JAPANESE EMB'S FINANCE MINISTER WARNED NATL FOM TRADE COUNCIL IN NY THAT "JAPANESE ECONOMY COULD NOT SURVIVE" W/O SURPLUS, DUE FACT COUNTRY NOT SELF-SUFFICIENT.

JAPANESE GAIN IN "TV WAR," AS USG CLEARS WAY FOR SANYO ELECTRIC BUY CONTROL WARWICK CORP'S TV BUSINESS (CDN 12/17).

KEIDANREN PREDICTS REAL GROWTH RATE FY'77 WILL BE 6.2 PCT UNLESS GOJ PUTS TOGETHER NEW ECON PKG DESIGNED STIMULATE BUSINESS (CULLISON).

JAPANESE AUTO MFRS PREDICT NEARLY 8.5 MILLION MOTOR VEHICLES WILL BE PRODUCED/SOLD NEXT YR. AUTOMAKERS OPTIMISTIC, DESPITE WEAK DOMESTIC/TOO-RAPIDLY EXPANDING FOM MARKETS (JOC).

TWO PERSONS KILLED/29 INJURED IN STAMPEDE AS TENS OF UNCLASSIFIED

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THOUSANDS JAPANESE BEGIN YEAR-END RUSH BUY LOTTERY TICKETS W/33,000 JACKPOT (AP, WP; UPI, BALT NA).

3. AUSTRALIA

VICKERS (CSM SYDNEY) REVIEWS GOA/BUSINESS/CONSERVATION-IST DISPUTE OVER WHETHER MINE COUNTRY'S URANIUM RESOURCES. STATES IN LONG-RUN, MAY BE ORGANIZED LABOR WHO DECIDES, THO UNIONS THEMSELVES DIVIDED ON ISSUE.

DIRECT US INVESTMENT IN AUSTRALIA LAST YEAR ROSE 289 MIL DOLS TO RECORD 5 BIL DOLS (AP, WSTAR).

4. INDOCHINA/HK

GROUP 177 HK RESIDENTS WHO LEFT SVN REPORT SAIGON "DEAD CITY," W/FOOD SHORTAGES/INFLATION/CONFISCATION PERSONAL PROPERTY/FORCED POL RE-EDUCATION. FLIGHT OUT ARRANGED

BY HKG (REUTER WP, NYT); WAS 1ST OF NUMBER BY WHICH HK
HOPES REPATRIATE THOUSANDS FROM VN (REUTER, WP).

THREE US RELIEF AGENCIES/UNESCO SHIP OVER 1300 TONS RICE
TO HAIPHONG AS GIFT TO HELP RELIEVE FOOD SHORTAGE. RICE
SCHEDULED ARRIVE IN TIME FOR TET (NYT).

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5. THAILAND

GOVT FORCES ATTEMPT BLUNT COMMUNIST OFFENSIVE IN S THAI-
LAND THAT ALARMS RTG MIL LEADERS (UPI BANGKOK 12/21).

6. MALAYSIA

GOM WILL FORM NEW ARMY DIV TO COUNTER POSSIBLE UPSURGE IN
COMMUNIST GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES (REUTER KL).

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7. KOREA

INCREASING STOCK MKT ACTIVITY IN SK UNDER GOVT PRODDING,
COMING PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN ECON DEVELOPMENT. ROKG
WANTS REDUCE DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN CAPITAL (NYTNS, CHITRIB)

ROKG CRACKS DOWN ON LAVISH RITES, WARNS WEDDINGS/FUNERALS/
TOMBS MUST BE TONED DOWN OR INDULGENT FAMILIES MAY FACE
FINES (UPI, CHITRIB).

8. GENERAL

IN ARTICLE ON INCREASING TREND TOWARD GOVTS' NEWS MANIPULA-
TION, CARMODY (NYT) INCLUDES FREEDOM HOUSE MAP/LIST SHOW-
ING HOW FREE PEOPLE TO SELECT LEADERS/VOICE OPINIONS/EXER-
CISE OTHER RIGHTS. EA COUNTRIES/COLONIES LISTED AS "FREE"
INCLUDE AUSTRALIA/JAPAN/NZ/P-NG/HK/UK COLONIES; "PARTLY
FREE" ARE ROC/INDONESIA/SK/MALAYSIA/SINGAPORE/W SAMOA/MA-
CAO, PLUS CERTAIN AUSSIE/FRENCH/NZ/US/UK DEPENDENCIES;
"NOT FREE" INCLUDE BRUNEI/BURMA/CAMBODIA/PRC/NK/LAOS/MON-
GOLIA/THAILAND/VN.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

9. CHINA

ZORZA (WP) SUGGESTS CARTER ADMIN, IN SHORT RUN, MAY WISH
SLOW DOWN/LIMIT EXTENT SINO-SOVIET RAPPROCHEMENT IN ORDER
NOT INJURE "TOUGH" US-SOVIET NEGOTIATIONS AHEAD. BUT
FEELS, IN LONG RUN, US SHOULD SUPPORT HEALING OF SINO-SO-

VIET BREACH IN ORDER AID CREATION NEW ITNL RELS FRAMEWORK
IN WHICH PARTICIPATION OF GREAT POWERS/LESS DEVELOPED
STATES WOULD BE VITAL.

TO NEW ORLEANS TIMES-PICAYUNE (12/7), APPOINTMENT HUANG
HUA AS NEW PRC FM SUGGESTS HUA GOVT PLANS MORE ACTIVE
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INTL ROLE--ESPECIALLY IN DELICATE US-SINO-SOVIET NEGOTIA-
TIONS.

CDN'S BEECH (TAIPEI 12/21) CITES PRC POL DIFFICULTIES,
ROC'S ECON PROSPERITY, US PUBLIC OPINION OPPOSITION TO
WRITING OFF TAIWAN. SAYS "WHAT ALL THIS ADDS UP TO" IS
THAT WILL BE "LONG TIME, IF EVER," BEFORE COMMUNISTS "GET
TAIWAN."

SUN'S ISAACS (TAIPEI) POINTS OUT ROC IN RECENT YEARS HAS
BEEN FACING UNCERTAINTIES ARISING FROM POL/ECON DEVELOP-
MENTS OVER WHICH IT HAS LITTLE OR NO CONTROL. NOTES
MUCH FEAR ABOUT WHAT WOULD FLOW FROM US TERMINATION OF
DEFENSE TREATY. CITES REPORTS THAT CONCERN ABOUT FUTURE
SO ACUTE THAT ROC BUSINESSMEN ARE SURREPTITIOUSLY SENDING
CAPITAL OUT OF COUNTRY, MANY TRYING LEAVE THEMSELVES.

IN ANOTHER LLAN BATOR DISPATCH, AP'S KENT REPORTS MONGOLIA
EAGER FOR WESTERN CURRENCY, IS STEPPING UP EFFORT ATTRACT
FOREIGN VISITORS. OBSERVES WHILE COUNTRY STILL PROBABLY
MOST BACKWARD OF COMMUNIST NATIONS, IT HAS DEVELOPED SOME
INDUSTRY/HOUSING, OTHER CONDITIONS HAVE IMPROVED -INCE 1924
REVOLUTION (CSM).

10. INDOCHINA

EADS (WP) REVIEWS JUST-ENDED CPVN CONGRESS; FINDS FEW
SURPRISES IN LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE, BUT STRONG INDICATIONS
PURGE "DEGENERATE AND CORRUPT" ELEMENTS DUE SOON. ADDS
SVN PARTY MEMBERS DO NOT FIGURE PROMINENTLY, W/NGUYEN THI
BINH/TRAN VAN TRA FAR FROM CENTER OF POWER. SAYS CONGRESS
APPEARED EAGER NOT PAPER OVER CRACKS IN ECON PICTURE;
MUCH TO BE DONE TO STAMP OUT SVN CAPITALISM/FAST LIVING.
QUOTES DIPLOMAT THAT THINGS ANNOUNCED MAKE SENSE, NOTHING
TO SUGGEST WON'T BUILT STRONG/PROSPEROUS/MODERN COUNTRY
IN 2 DECADES.
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11. INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

BEECH (CDN, BALT NA 12/21) QUOTES REFUGEE THAT 85 PCT SVN
PEOPLE WOULD LEAVE IF COULD, W/UNHCR OFFICIAL SAYING SEEMS
NO END TO REFUGEE FLOW. NOTES AS ESCAPE BECOMES MORE DIF-
FICULT, ALSO BECOMES MORE EXPENSIVE. ESTIMATES 15-20,000
SVIETS HAVE ESCAPED SINCE APR '75. MENTIONS CORRUPTION
STILL RAMPANT IN SVN, W/REPORTS MORE BEGGARS/HEROIN AD-
DICTS.
ROBINSON

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